

I am a professional, certificated flight attendant working for Northwest Airlines for over 21 years. I am also a private pilot. One of my major duties as a flight attendant is to ensure the safety of the traveling public on my flights. The ubiquitousness of cell phones has developed into a problem with one of the first safety functions the passengers see us demonstrate; the safety demonstration. Passengers are preoccupied with the phones, rather than observing the features we are demonstrating. The preoccupation continues as we prepare the cabin for departure. On nearly, EVERY flight I need to ask the passenger to discontinue the use of the phone while we are taxiing in preparation for takeoff; one of the most critical phases in an aircraft. This and the landing are the times that passengers should be aware and not be using a cell phone.

As a safety conscious flight attendant, and also as a private pilot trained for emergency conditions, I urge the FCC to restrict the use of cellular phones during these critical phases of the flight. Thank you,
John Bacon